

## Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01

OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAL-01 FEA-01 OIC-02 /121 W  
----- 108925

R 121145Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9770

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0637

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, CZ

SUBJECT: UPCOMING LOS CONFERENCE SESSION

REF: (A) STATE 054588, (B) PRAGUE 0398

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR MET MARCH 11 WITH PISK, HEAD OF MFA'S LEGAL DEPARTMENT, TO DISCUSS UPCOMING LOS CONFERENCE SESSION. PISK HAD PLANNED TO HEAD GOC DELEGATION, BUT SAID FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK WANTED HIM TO REMAIN IN PRAGUE FOR PRESENT. DELEGATION WILL THEREFORE BE HEADED BY OTO JACHEK, COUNSELOR OF CZECHOSLOVAK MISSION IN NEW YORK. PISK STILL HOPES TO GET TO NEW YORK, PERHAPS FOR FINAL FOUR WEEKS OF SESSION.

2. RESPONDING TO POLCOUNSELOR'S PRESENTATION OF U.S. VIEWS AS OUTLINED PARA 4 OF REFTEL A, PISK STATED GOC IS ALSO VERY CONFIDENTIAL

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ANXIOUS TO SEE CONFERENCE CONCLUDED THIS YEAR, AND WILL EXERT

EVERY EFFORT TOWARD THIS GOAL. WHILE HE SEES LITTLE HOPE OF FINAL AGREEMENT BEING REACHED AT THIS SESSION, HE DOES FEEL THAT A SUBSEQUENT TWO-MONTH SESSION LATER THIS YEAR MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. PISK SAID HE HAD RECEIVED FROM JACHEK COPY OF INFORMAL U.S. PAPER WHICH LOOKED LIKE FAIRLY EXTENSIVE REVISION OF PART I OF SINGLE NEGOTIATING TEXT, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT WE DID NOT PLAN TO INTRODUCE IT AS SUCH, BUT RATHER WOULD INTRODUCE INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS TO THAT TEXT.

4. ONLY SPECIFIC ASPECT OF CONFERENCE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WAS COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES. PISK SAID THAT LANDLOCKED GROUP WOULD ADOPT POSITION IN FAVOR OF COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT. PROBLEM WAS MORE DIFFICULT FOR SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, BUT HE COULD ASSURE US THAT THEY "WOULD NO OBJECT" TO AMERASINGHE'S ISSUANCE OF PART IV, NOR TO ITS USE AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION. THEY COULD ACCEPT COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT IN CERTAIN SPECIFIED AREAS (INDEED THEY ALREADY HAD), BUT WOULD MOST LIKELY STOP SHORT OF APPROVING IT AS BLANKET PROVISION FOR TREATY. HE ENVISAGED POSSIBLE COMPROMISE OF WRITING IN PROVISIONS FOR COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT, BUT ALLOWING SIGNATORIES TO RESERVE RIGHT OF REFUSING TO ACCEPT IT IN INDIVIDUAL CASES. PISK AGREED, HOWEVER, WITH POLCOUNSELOR'S OBSERVATION THAT POSSIBILITY OF SUCH RESERVATION WOULD, IN FINAL ANALYSIS, VITIATE WHATEVER MANDATORY SETTLEMENT PROCEDURES MIGHT HAVE BEEN WRITTEN IN. PISK ADMITTED THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS TORN ON ISSUE BY ITS DUAL STATUS AS BOTH SOCIALIST AND LANDLOCKED STATE. HE INDICATED QUITE CLEARLY, HOWEVER, THAT IF HE HAD HIS CHOICE, HE WOULD PREFER COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT. PISK THEN LOWERED HIS VOICE CONSIDERABLY AND SAID THAT POLAND WAS VERY INTERESTED IN SEEING STRONG COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT PROVISIONS WRITTEN INTO TREATY. HE AGREED THAT HUNGARY SHOULD ALSO FAVOR SUCH PROVISIONS.

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5. COMMENT: IF PISK WAS RIGHT ABOUT POLAND AND HUNGARY, IT IS AT LEAST POSSIBLE THAT THE TRIO MIGHT BE ABLE TO EXERT SOME PRESSURE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MANDATORY SETTLEMENT. AS WE INDICATED IN REFTEL B, HOWEVER, ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S INCLINATION AS A LANDLOCKED STATE AND HER OBLIGATIONS AS A SOCIALIST STATE WILL CERTAINLY BE RESOVLED IN FAVOR OF THE LATTER.  
PERRY

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW OF THE SEA, POLICIES, MEETING DELEGATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAR 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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